## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 05123 011920Z ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 PM-04 L-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /059 W

-----028609 020533Z /12

R 011848Z JUL 77 FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6055

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PORG, OAS, SHUM, BL

SUBJ: BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR TO OAS RECALLED

REF: LA PAZ 5003

1. LA PAZ NEWSPAPER HOY (SEMI-OFFICIAL ORGAN), JULY 1, REPORTS BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE OAS, FERNANDO ORTIZ SANZ, HAS BEEN DISMISSED AND RECALLED TO COUNTRY TO EXPLAIN REASONS FOR ABSENCE DURING RECENT OAS HUMAN RIGHTS VOTE. A FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF THAT WHILE NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT YET MADE, IT IS COMING. EARLIER CRITICISM BY INDEPENDENT PRESS OF GOB'S ABSENCE RESULTED IN FOREIGN MINISTER ADRIAZOLA CALLING FOR A WRITTEN REPORT ON REASONS FOR ABSENCE. ORTIZ THEN SENT A TELEGRAM TO LOCAL NEWS MEDIA PUBLISHED BY MAJOR PERIODICALS JUNE 30 IN WHICH HE ASSUMED FULL PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS ABSENCE, WHICH HE CLAIMED WAS INSPIRED BY QUOTE NATIONAL EXPEDIENCY UNQUOTE. ORTIZ'S CABLE TO NEWS MEDIA ALSO INDICATED HE HAD CONVEYED HIS CONFIDENTIAL REASONS FOR ABASENCE TO FOREIGN MINISTER VIA CLASSIFIED NOTE.

2. EMBASSY COMMENT: IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHAT LIES BEHIND THIS INCIDENT. OF SIGNIFICANCE IS THE LOCAL PRESS' QUICK AND CRITICAL REACTION TO BOLIVIA'S FAILURE TO STAND UP AND BE LIMITED OFFICIAL LISE.

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COUNTED AT THE OAS ON HUMAN RIGHTS (SEE REFTEL) AND THE GOB'S APPARENT SENSITIVITY TO SUCH CRITICISM, RESULTING IN ORTIZ'S RECALL. WHETHER THE GOB IN FACT DELIBERATELY CHOSE TO BE ABSENT IN ORDER TO AVOID BEING CAUGHT BETWEEN THE HUMAN RIGHTS PROPONENTS (INCLUDING THE USG) AND ITS SOUTHERN CONE NEIGHBORS IS STILL SPECULATION AT THIS POINT. BEAL

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: VOTING, HUMAN RIGHTS, POLICIES, AMBASSADORS, RECALLS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS

Control Number: n/a

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Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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SAS ID: 1986682 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR TO OAS RECALLED TAGS: PORG, SHUM, BL, OAS, (ORTIZ SANZ, FERNANDO)

To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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